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Associates, Inc.



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Survey of Likely Voters and Strategy Discussion

PSB conducted 1157 online interviews of likely UK voters on July 12, 2005. The margin of error is +/- 2.88% for the overall audience, higher for subgroups.

Clearly the public believes that the PM and the government are handling the terrorist bombing well and focusing on the right issues – the evil ideology that is being spread and the need to toughen anti-terrorism laws.

Support for the PM is up – and has been improving over the days.

Support for reaction to the terrorist bombing is strong.

Evil ideology and radical clerics take the most blame.

Support for ID cards has increased.

Approval of Iraq war has increased significantly.

Women are now especially concerned about terrorism.

Immigration and crime are up as issues.

But of course this is all an uncertain situation in which anything can happen.

The public likes Bush even less after the G8, and they see Blair as having gotten tougher on EU more so than tougher on Bush.

But with aid to Africa, the Olympics, and the handling of the bombing, confidence in leadership is growing as reflected in the poll, but the voters remain uncertain about the definition and objectives of the term, which is a key objective of the Conference, though it is too far out to know what the public mood will be then.

		June 05	July 05
Country	Right Track	43	43
	Wrong Track	49	46
Economy	Right Track	51	58
	Wrong Track	39	35
Standard of Living in Next Year	Get Better	--	14
	Stay the Same	--	52
	Get Worse	--	33
Favourability	Tony Blair	41/56	46/53
	Michael Howard	33/61	31/62
	Charles Kennedy	51/40	49/45
	Gordon Brown	52/43	51/44
	Labour Party	49/47	48/50
	Conservative Party	40/57	38/61
	Liberal Democrats	53/42	53/41
Approval	George W. Bush	26/67	18/77
	Tony Blair	46/51	49/51

Women were particularly affected by the terrorist attacks.

If an election for Parliament were held today, what one or two of the following would be the most important issue to you in determining how you would vote?

(Change from June)

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Health care	27(-1)	23(+2)	30(-5)	35	15	27
Immigration and asylum	26(+6)	28(+5)	24(+6)	18	38	23
Terrorism	20(+17)	14(+10)	26(+24)	24	18	18
Your standard of living	18(0)	15(1)	21(-1)	22	18	15
The economy	17(-2)	21(2)	12(-7)	20	15	13
Crime	15(+3)	17(+4)	12(+2)	12	22	13
Anti-social behaviour	15(+6)	16(+6)	14(+7)	19	14	11
Pensions	14(+2)	18(+2)	10(+2)	9	19	17
Education	12(-9)	10(-4)	14(-13)	13	10	14
The EU	7(-3)	9(0)	5(-5)	5	11	5
The environment	6(+1)	6(+2)	6(-1)	9	1	4
Iraq	6(-1)	6(-5)	6(+4)	2	2	16
Unemployment	2(-4)	1(-7)	2(-3)	3	1	2
International issues other than Iraq or the EU	2(-2)	3(-5)	2(1)	1	2	4
Military and defence	2(1)	2(0)	1(1)	1	3	1
Other	2(-4)	2(-4)	2(-4)	0	3	3

Terrorism rose as a voting issue at the expense of public services.

In the next election for Parliament, which one of the following will be the most important to you in determining how you vote?

(Change from June)

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Public safety and security issues like crime, immigration, and anti-social behaviour	28 (0)	31	26	22	34	30
The economy and people's standard of living	27 (+2)	27	27	34	25	22
Public services like National Health and education	23 (-8)	23	23	26	16	26
Terrorism and national security	9 (+5)	6	12	11	10	7
Iraq and the related intelligence issues	4 (+2)	4	4	2	1	9
Britain's membership in and relations with the EU	8 (0)	8	7	4	14	5

Thinking in general, would you say that you strongly approve, somewhat approve, somewhat disapprove, or strongly disapprove of the job Tony Blair has been doing on...

Saying Approve / Disapprove

	All	Lab	Cons	LD
Economy	57/40	92/6	25/73	51/44
Terrorism	56/42	84/15	31/67	50/49
Domestic Issues	46/52	87/12	13/87	33/64
Foreign Policy	43/54	77/20	20/77	25/70

For each of the following, please indicate whether it applies more to Labour, the Conservatives, or the Liberal Democrats.

	All	Lab	Cons	LD
Will be best for the British economy		43	29	13
Will most improve public services like National Health and education		38	24	24
Will do the best job to assure that Britain is safe from terrorists		35	32	8
Has the best approach on immigration and asylum		22	45	17

In the News

Aware

Made More / Less Favourable to Labour

	Aware	All	Male	Female	Lab	Cons	LD
Tony Blair's response to and handling of the terrorist attacks (Approve/Disapprove)	-	73/20	74/21	70/19	92/4	56/33	69/23
Tony Blair's efforts to persuade the wealthy G8 countries to double aid to Africa	90	64/21	58/27	70/16	87/6	32/44	74/16
Tony Blair working to persuade the wealthy G8 countries to tackle climate change	89	69/16	64/20	73/12	92/1	42/36	72/11
Tony Blair travelling to Singapore to help win the bid to bring the 2012 Olympics to London	87	55/23	53/27	55/18	78/4	34/41	52/24
Tony Blair and French President Jacques Chirac disagreeing with each other and sometimes exchanging strong words on issues ranging from the EU to the Olympic bid	84	56/18	57/21	56/17	77/3	40/34	50/25

Terrorist Attacks

Please indicate for each of the following whether you approve or disapprove of their response and handling of the terrorist attacks.

Saying Approve / Disapprove

	All		Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
	Strongly Approve	Approve / Disapprove					
Scotland Yard and the other law enforcement agencies	43	84/9	84/11	84/6	89/5	79/12	86/7
Tony Blair	34	73/20	74/21	70/19	92/4	56/33	69/23
The Mayor of London	32	67/19	69/22	65/15	76/11	54/31	71/14
The domestic intelligence service MI5	24	65/18	64/20	65/15	77/8	58/24	53/25
The government ministers	17	64/22	63/27	64/17	84/6	47/36	58/24
The Conservative Party's leadership	13	52/25	61/22	46/27	40/37	75/7	49/28
The Liberal Democrat Party's leadership	11	50/22	52/24	49/19	49/22	42/33	70/5

What do you think was the biggest cause of the terrorist attacks last week in London?

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
The hatred of certain Islamist extremist groups for the West	38	41	36	42	41	27
Britain's involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan	30	28	31	27	25	42
Britain's close relations with the US	12	13	10	10	11	14
A failure of Britain's immigration and asylum policies	8	8	8	5	14	6
A reaction to Britain's leadership in the G8	5	3	7	8	5	2
Lax security precautions	2	2	2	1	2	2
A reaction to Britain getting the Olympic games	2	1	2	2	2	3
Don't know	3	2	4	4	1	4

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
If we let these attacks force us out of Iraq, it will send the wrong message to the terrorists	68	74	63	81	69	53
The best way for us to stop future attacks against Britain is to get out of Iraq	20	18	23	11	22	28
Don't know	11	8	14	8	9	19

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
These attacks were the result of the hatred against Britain caused by our involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan	49	49	50	29	55	72
These attacks show that Prime Minister Blair is right that we need to fight terrorism around the world for as long as it takes to defeat it	43	43	42	64	35	20
Don't know	8	7	8	6	10	8

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
The government could not reasonably have prevented the attacks last week	71	71	71	86	59	65
The government is to blame for failing to thwart the attacks with better security and intelligence	21	22	21	9	33	26
Don't know	7	6	8	5	8	9

Do you think the attacks were carried out by:	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
People otherwise living legally in Britain	64	62	67	63	61	69
Foreigners not legally in Britain	17	18	16	17	21	13
Don't know	19	20	18	20	19	18

Do you think Britain will be attacked by terrorists again in the near future?	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Yes	83	84	81	78	87	82
No	4	5	4	4	5	5
Don't know	13	11	15	18	8	13

Some people say the government has been too tolerant in allowing Muslim clerics in Britain preach hatred and violence against Britain and the West, and that people preaching violence should be arrested or deported. Do you:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Strongly agree	61	64	59	52	76	53
Somewhat agree	26	26	26	31	18	28
Somewhat disagree	6	6	6	7	4	8
Strongly disagree	3	3	3	4	1	5
Don't know	4	1	6	5	1	6

Please indicate for each of the following how high a priority it should be for the government to change the circumstances that allow extremists to exist and strike in Britain.

Showing Top Priority

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Toughen the law enforcement system, to root out the extremists before they strike	77	72	81	76	82	72
Fix the immigration and asylum system, so that fewer extremists are allowed into Britain in the first place	74	69	80	71	86	65
Make it illegal to preach hatred and violence	67	68	66	60	72	65
Finding and fighting terrorists abroad, to stop them before they can strike in Britain	48	48	47	53	51	37
Change the education system, so that all children are taught British values	45	48	42	40	56	35

Which of the following do you think is the best way to change the circumstances that allow extremists to exist and strike in Britain?

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Fix the immigration and asylum system, so that fewer extremists are allowed into Britain in the first place	41	35	46	35	50	40
Toughen the law enforcement system, to root out the extremists before they strike	25	25	24	31	22	16
Make it illegal to preach hatred and violence	17	22	13	16	14	22
Change the education system, so that all children are taught British values	6	9	4	4	9	9
Finding and fighting terrorists abroad, to stop them before they can strike in Britain	6	6	6	6	4	7
Don't know	5	4	6	7	1	8

The Conservatives have called for an inquiry into the attacks. Does this make you:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Much more	13	13	12	3	30	7
Somewhat more	28	27	29	15	43	27
Somewhat less	25	27	23	36	12	29
Much less favourable to the Conservatives	13	14	13	21	2	16
Don't know	21	19	23	25	12	21

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Labour's view that it is irresponsible at this time to call for an inquiry, because an inquiry would distract the police and security services from hunting down the terrorists	54	55	53	81	22	57
The Conservatives' view that we need an inquiry into the attacks to determine what went wrong and what we can learn for the future	35	37	32	8	71	30
Don't know	12	8	15	10	7	14

ID Card Tracking and Counter-Terrorism Legislation

How much do you support or oppose a government issued ID card for everyone in the country?

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Strongly support	30 (0)	27	33	44	25	23
Somewhat support	38 (+8)	39	37	35	42	37
Somewhat oppose	12 (-2)	12	13	12	12	16
Strongly oppose	18 (-5)	21	14	7	20	23

What do you think the biggest advantage of a national ID card would be:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Helping keep out illegal immigrants and asylum seekers	30(+2)	26	33	31	29	29
Helping track and find criminals	16(-4)	19	12	18	13	17
Helping track possible terrorists	14(+7)	8	20	21	9	14
Assuring that the National Health Service provides services only to people who are eligible for it in Britain	14(-3)	17	11	9	21	10
Assuring that British jobs do not go to illegal immigrants	7(-1)	9	6	8	7	8
Don't know	20(-1)	21	18	13	22	21

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Government ID cards will provide numerous advantages, including helping protect public safety and assuring that public services and jobs go only to those who are eligible for them	64(+5)	61	67	73	62	57
Government ID cards would be a significant intrusion into civil liberties more appropriate for a totalitarian government than a democracy, because it would allow the government to track everything a person does	29(-5)	33	26	20	31	36

Prior to these attacks, the government had planned to introduce a new counter-terrorism bill in the autumn, which would go in effect in Spring 2006.

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD	Terr	Pub Sfty
This bill should be introduced earlier to give the government additional powers to fight terrorism now	55	54	56	55	63	48	67	69
This is an important issue and the bill should not be rushed ahead of schedule	38	40	36	38	32	45	29	26
Don't know	7	5	8	7	5	8	4	5

Iraq Tracking and Messages

Do you approve or disapprove of the way Tony Blair is handling Britain's current involvement in Iraq?

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Approve	41(+5)	42	40	69	26	24
Disapprove	41(-13)	44	39	13	57	59

Do you think that Britain should or should not have taken military action to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq?

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Should have	47 (0)	47	47	67	42	31
Should NOT have	42 (-5)	44	39	21	50	57

Foreign Policy Priorities

In his dealings with the US, do you think Blair is:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Dealing with the US about the same as always	55	57	53	55	56	51
Being more accommodating to the US than previously	22	24	20	7	30	35
Being tougher than he was previously with the US	18	16	20	32	8	10
Don't know	6	3	8	6	6	4

Do you think Blair should:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Get tougher with the US even if it might weaken our bond with the US	56	58	53	45	51	76
Continue on the present course with the US	28	24	31	41	23	14
Work to form closer ties to the US	11	14	7	11	17	5
Don't know	6	3	8	3	9	5

In his dealings with the EU, do you think Blair is:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Dealing with the EU about the same as always	42	41	43	39	41	51
Being tougher than he was previously with the EU	35	39	31	47	24	29
Being more accommodating to the EU than previously	13	16	11	4	25	11
Don't know	10	4	15	9	11	9

Do you think Blair should:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Get tougher with the EU even if it might weaken our bond with the EU	53	58	49	40	71	46
Continue on the present course with the EU	24	25	23	34	13	26
Work to form closer ties to the EU	14	14	13	16	6	21
Don't know	9	2	15	9	10	8

Please indicate for each of the following whether it should be:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
% Saying						
Most Important Priority						
Finding and rooting out terrorism that could threaten Britain or British citizens	78	77	79	78	82	71
Strengthening the British economy by assuring strong and fair trade	70	67	73	78	60	71
Finding and rooting out terrorism that could threaten peace in other regions of the world	57	54	59	60	57	56
Using Britain's economic leverage to assure the environment is protected around the world	48	43	53	54	36	50
Rooting out electoral corruption and election-related violence by dictators	44	45	44	42	50	40
Reducing poverty in Africa and other regions and countries	44	36	52	52	28	53
Pressuring countries to end religious oppression of their citizens	38	36	40	39	41	33
Working to broker peace agreements among countries that are hostile to each other	38	32	44	47	29	40
Using Britain's economic leverage to assure workers are protected around the world	36	32	41	44	26	36
Working to keep the US and EU working in together for common goals	36	38	34	41	32	33
Spreading democracy to countries where it does not currently exist	26	25	28	30	25	25

Third Term

For its third term, do you want Labour to:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Lead major changes in how government addresses the issues confronting the country	56	61	52	40	64	67
Continue the progress it has made over the past two terms	29	25	33	57	6	21
Don't know	15	14	16	3	29	12

Which is closer to your view:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Labour had a vision for getting us where we are, but needs a new vision for taking us forward	51	54	48	34	57	70
Labour already has the right vision for the country and now it's mostly a matter of delivering on that vision	29	27	31	62	6	13
Don't know	20	19	21	4	37	17

Which do you think should be Labour's higher priority for the next couple years:

	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Improving public safety concerns like crime, anti-social behaviour and immigration	61	60	63	58	73	54
Improving delivery of public services education and health care	34	36	32	38	21	43
Don't know	5	4	5	4	5	4

What do you think Labour should Focus on over the next couple years:	All	Male	Fem	Lab	Cons	LD
Improving core public safety concerns like crime, anti-social behaviour, and immigration	44	46	42	38	55	40
Keeping the economy strong	21	22	20	24	18	20
Improving delivery of government services like education and health care	20	22	18	19	13	27
Fighting terrorism in Britain and around the world	11	7	15	14	9	10
Don't know	4	3	6	5	4	2